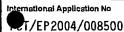
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G02B3/00 G02B G02B27/09 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) GO2B IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category 9 Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. US 6 343 862 B1 (HAYASHI KOHTARO ET AL) 5 February 2002 (2002-02-05) A 1-21 column 30, line 33 - line 44 column 31, line 48 - line 58 figure 23 Α WO 98/10314 A (HENTZE JOACHIM; 1-21 LISSOTSCHENKO VITALY (DE)) 12 March 1998 (1998-03-12) cited in the application abstract page 4, line 18 - page 6, line 28 figures Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but clied to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance Invention *E* earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means *P* document published prior to the international filing date but tater than the priority date claimed '&' document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the International search report 12 November 2004 25/11/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Seibert, J Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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